

## **Coastal Watershed Invasive Plant Partnership**

### **Meeting Minutes**

January 08, 2009 9am-12 pm. US Forest Service Field Office, Durham

#### **Attendees:**

Brooke Smart, nrcs	Fred Borman, unh coop.ex.	Doug Cygan, nh dept ag.
Doug Bechtel, tnc	Brian Wahrburton, nh parks	Dave Burdick, unh
Don Keirstead, nrcs	Katie Arey, gbnerr	Florence Peterson, usfs
Chris Powels, nrcs	Tracy Degnan, rccd	Kevin Lucey, nhcp
Gary Bashline, nh parks	Rachel Johnson, unh	

#### **Winter Speaker Guests:**

Jay Aube nhdes (speaker)  
Lori Sommer, nhdes (speaker)  
Lyn Lombard, Piscataquog Land Conservancy  
Dawn Genes, Lamprey River Watershed Association  
Michael Bohne, usfs  
Beth Hume, New Castle Conservation Commission

**CWIPP-ODIORNE COORDINATOR / FUNDING STRATEGY** The NH Coastal Program awarded a grant to the Seacoast Science Center (SSC) to conduct a comprehensive inventory of invasive plants at Odiorne Point State Park using TNC Weed Information Management System. The SSC will also to create invasive plant control prescriptions for each habitat type and will implement several volunteer supported restoration workdays. In addition \$15,000 from the Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership is available for on the ground restoration at Odiorne.

- Doug Cygan cautioned about protecting any heritage plantings such as perennial gardens, or old Norway Maples and also suggested that we secure the military maps to locate historical features, prior to WWII.
- Tracy Degnan mentioned that at Great Island Common in New Castle, the military maps indicated specific planting plans from the 1940's for the whole property.
- Brian Wahrburton, indicated that he was interested in seeing this position become full time and that a good role for this new position is to coordinate the multiple State Agencies and harness in-kind resources.
- Doug Bechtel indicated that The Nature Conservancy would be able to provide training for WIMS and likely loan WIMS equipment to SSC.
- NRCS Intern, Chris Powels, will assist in WIMS mapping of Odiorne this summer. NRCS has WIMS equipment.
- Don Keirstead suggested that the partners contract out restoration work with the \$15,000 from CWRP for immediate restoration in 2009.

Kevin sought input from the committee on the best hiring scenario to complete the work at Odiorne and presented two options: either to hire a part time seasonal staff member or to hire a contractor.

- Florence explained a hiring process used by the USFS where an advertisement is released describing the scope of services and qualifications required, and applicants submit resumes. Then the job description can be further refined based on those interested in the position.
- Dave Burdick agreed that choosing between contractor or part timer would depend upon those interested.

**NFWF FIVE STAR PARTNERSHIP GRANT SOURCE:** The Five Star Restoration Program seeks to develop community capacity to sustain local natural resources for future generations by providing modest financial assistance to diverse local partnerships for wetland, riparian, and coastal habitat restoration. Applications are due February 16  
NFWF 5 Star details:

- Requests must be between \$10,000-\$40,000
- Average award: \$20,000-\$25,000
- Projects should be completed within 2 years of award
- Partnerships should include at least 5 partners

<http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Search&template=/CM/HTMLDisplay.cfm&ContentID=10936>

**ACTION:** The Seacoast Science Center and The Nature Conservancy may submit a joint proposal to the 5 Star Grant Program to control invasive plants at Odiorne Point State Park and Lubberland Creek Preserve.

**REVIEW SPECIES SPECIFIC CONTROL TECHNIQUES:** Using a standardize format that was created by the Treatment, Control, and Disposal Subcommittee, Katie Arey and Rachel Johnson created draft Fact Sheets for: Pepperweed, Japanese Knotweed, and Phragmites. The Fact Sheets provide a brief narrative, pictures and very detailed specifications for manual, chemical, and biological control options. The intended audience is for natural resources professionals.

The NRCS has also been working on developing Fact Sheets for invasives control. The NRCS fact sheets provide narrative descriptions of control techniques and are intended for the general public. **ACTION:** It was agreed that the Treatment, Control and Disposal Subcommittee will meet on January 22 at 9am at the USFS office in Durham to discuss next steps.

**OTHER:** Brooke Smart mentioned that the new farm bill has language to create a new NRCS program: Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative (CCPI), which could be a new source of funds for CWIPP. Brooke will keep the partnership informed as that initiative develops.

#### **CWIPP INVASIVE PLANT SPEAKER SERIES: “NAVIGATING THE NHDES PERMITTING PROCESS”**

Lori Sommers of the NHDES Wetlands Bureau spoke about the Wetland Mitigation Program and Jay Aube of the NHDES Shoreland Program spoke about the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection relative to invasive plant control.

For more information about these programs:

**Shoreland Protection Program:** <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/cspa/index.htm>

**Wetlands Mitigation Program:** <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/wmp/index.htm>